

P.O. BOX 863 • PHOENIX, AZ. 85001-0863

August 14, 2007

Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW
Room TW-204B
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Doc. 91-143

Subject: Revision of the NPSPAC Region 3 800 MHz Regional Plan

The Arizona Regional Review Committee (ARRC) is responsible for the six megahertz of NPSPAC spectrum devoted to Region 3. The ARRC has revised the Plan to assist in statewide interagency operations, by changing the nomenclature for the Common Calling and Tactical Interoperability Channels to match a plan developed by the Arizona Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC). Another revision concerned the elimination of reserved frequency pairs in non-metro areas of the state.

An original document is enclosed in this package, along with 4 copies. An additional copy with the changes in colored font is also included. You may find this useful in identifying the revisions.

Letters of Concurrence from each adjacent state are also enclosed.

The Arizona Regional Review Committee respectfully requests approval of the revisions to the Arizona 800 MHz Regional Plan.

If you need any further information or have any questions, feel free to contact me. Please mail correspondence to the address below. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Larry Sayers ARRC Chairperson

Pima County Wireless Services Manager 801 West Congress Tucson, AZ 85745

Office: 520-884-5367

E-Mail: larry.sayers@pima.gov

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Chairperson: Larry Sayers Vice-Chairperson: Harold Pierson Sec./Treas.: Phil Cook



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March 12, 2007

Sec./Treas.: Phil Cook

Ron Wong Engineering Manager Radio Systems Division 1110 N. Eastern Avenue Los Angeles, California 90063

Mr. Wong,

The Arizona Regional Review Committee (ARRC) is responsible for the 800 MHz NPSPAC frequencies in Region 3. The ARRC has modified its regional plan with some minor changes. I have attached a copy of the revised plan with my e-mail with changes marked in colored font. The changes are on pages 3, 12-14, 58-62, 64, 65, and 74-81. Before we can file an amendment with the FCC we must have concurrence from our adjoining regions. See the attached paragraph from the FCC's 800 MHz web page:

**Coordination with Adjoining Regions** 

Applications for amendments revising the allocation of 800 MHz frequency spectrum must be coordinated with the adjoining regions. These amendments should include letters of concurrence signed by the Chairperson of each adjoining region. Applications not including such letters of concurrence will automatically be considered major amendments and will be placed on Public Notice to enabled interested or affected parties the opportunity to submit comments and reply comments to such applications.

Please provide us with concurrence from your region by sending me a Letter of Concurrence or by signing the line on the bottom of this page and e-mailing it back to me at <a href="mailto:larry.sayers@fs.pima.gov">larry.sayers@fs.pima.gov</a> or mailing it to me at:

Pima County Information Technology Attn: Larry Sayers 1301 South Mission Road Tucson, AZ 85713

Please return concurrence by April 9, 2007. Thanks you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Larry Sayers ARRC Chair

To the FCC,

I concur with Region 3's proposed changes to the Arizona 800 MHz Regional Public Safety Plan.

En Wong	_3/19/07	
Ron Wong, Region 5 Chair	Date	

Chairperson: Larry Sayers Vice-Chairperson: Harold Pierson





P.O. BOX 863 • PHOENIX, AZ. 85001-0863

James A. Wilson Clark County Fire Station 18 575 E. Flamingo Road Las Vegas, NV 89119 March 12, 2007

Mr. Wilson,

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Pima County Information Technology

Attn: Larry Sayers

1301 South Mission Road

Tucson, AZ 85713

Please return concurrence by April 9, 2007. Thanks you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Larry Sayers
ARRC Chair

To the FCC,

Leoneur with Region 3's proposed changes to the Arizona 800 MHz Regional Public Safety Plan.

lames A. Wilson, Region 27 Chair

Date

Chairperson: Larry Sayers Vice-Chairperson: Harold Pierson Sec./Treas.: Phil Cook



P.O. BOX 863 • PHOENIX, AZ. 85001-0863

Dennis Kalvels

March 12, 2007

State Telecommunications 2452 West Second Avenue Denver, CO 80223-1019

Mr. Kalvels,

The Arizona Regional Review Committee (ARRC) is responsible for the 800 MHz NPSPAC frequencies in Region 3. The ARRC has modified its regional plan with some minor changes. I have attached a copy of the revised plan with my e-mail with changes marked in colored font. The changes are on pages 3, 12-14, 58-62, 64, 65, and 74-81. Before we can file an amendment with the FCC we must have concurrence from our adjoining regions. See the attached paragraph from the FCC's 800 MHz web page:

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1301 South Mission Road

Tucson, AZ 85713

Please return concurrence by April 9, 2007. Thanks you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely.

Larry Sayers ARRC Chair

To the FCC.

I concur with Region 3's proposed changes to the Arizona 800 MHz Regional Public Safety Plan.

Dennis Kalvels, Region 7 Chair

 $\frac{3}{\text{Date}}$ 

Chairperson: Larry Sayers

Vice-Chairperson: Harold Pierson

Sec./Treas.: Phil Cook

P.O. BOX 863 • PHOENIX, AZ. 85001-0863

800 MHZ

Steve Proctor
U.C.A.N.
5360 South Ridge Village Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84118

March 12, 2007

Mr. Proctor,

The Arizona Regional Review Committee (ARRC) is responsible for the 800 MHz NPSPAC frequencies in Region 3. The ARRC has modified its regional plan with some minor changes. I have attached a copy of the revised plan with my e-mail with changes marked in colored font. The changes are on pages 3, 12-14, 58-62, 64, 65, and 74-81. Before we can file an amendment with the FCC we must have concurrence from our adjoining regions. See the attached paragraph from the FCC's 800 MHz web page:

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Pima County Information Technology Attn: Larry Sayers 1301 South Mission Road Tucson, AZ 85713

Please return concurrence by April 9, 2007. Thanks you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Larry Sayers ARRC Chair

To the FCC,

I concur with Region 3's proposed changes to the Arizona 800 MHz Regional Public Safety Plan.

Steve Proctor, Region 41 Chair

Date

Chairperson: Larry Sayers

Vice-Chairperson: Harold Pierson

Sec./Treas.: Phil Cook

P.O. BOX 863 • PHOENIX, AZ. 85001-0863

Julian Zamora
Communications Manager
City of Albuquerque
1801 Fourth St., N.W., Building C
Albuquerque, NM 87102

March 12, 2007

Mr. Zamora,

The Arizona Regional Review Committee (ARRC) is responsible for the 800 MHz NPSPAC frequencies in Region 3. The ARRC has modified its regional plan with some minor changes. I have attached a copy of the revised plan with my e-mail with changes marked in colored font. The changes are on pages 3, 12-14, 58-62, 64, 65, and 74-81. Before we can file an amendment with the FCC we must have concurrence from our adjoining regions. See the attached paragraph from the FCC's 800 MHz web page:

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Pima County Information Technology

Attn: Larry Sayers

1301 South Mission Road

Tucson, AZ 85713

Please return concurrence by April 9, 2007. Thanks you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Larry Sayers

ARRC Chair

To the FCC,

I concur with Region 3's proposed changes to the Arizona 800 MHz Regional Public Safety Plan.

Julian Zamora, Region 29 Chair

Chairperson: Larry Sayers

Date

Vice-Chairperson: Harold Pierson

Sec./Treas.: Phil Cook

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(PR Docket 91-143)

REGION 3 (PR Docket 91-143)

# THE ARIZONA PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO SPECTRUM PLANNING COMMITTEE REGIONAL PLAN

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#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In December 1983, the United States Congress directed the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to establish a plan to ensure that the communications needs of state and local public safety authorities would be met. The Commission issued a Notice of Inquiry on March 7, 1984 and over 300 comments from the public safety community and other interested parties were evaluated by the FCC staff.

These comments formed the basis for a Staff Report issued by the Commission's Private Radio Bureau on August 1, 1985. This report suggested various methods of meeting the communications needs of public safety. One option included the allocation of additional frequencies at 821-825 MHz and 866-870 MHz.

The Commission issued an allocation order on September 19, 1986. Six megahertz of spectrum were selected in the 821-824 MHz and 866-869 MHz bands since they were adjacent to frequencies already being used for public safety purposes. However, while the Commission made this allocation for this additional 6 MHz of spectrum for public safety use nationwide, they also recognized the necessity of developing a National Plan to promote interoperability among public safety providers and to insure an efficient use of the newly allocated spectrum.

Recognizing the importance of public safety participation in the development of the National Plan, the FCC established the National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee (NPSPAC) in December 1986. With an open membership, NPSPAC provided the opportunity for the public safety community and other interested members of the public to participate in an overall spectrum management approach. The Commission charged NPSPAC with the following tasks: (1) identify communications requirements of public safety agencies; (2) develop a scheme for efficient use of the new frequencies; (3) develop a scheme to increase the utility of existing public safety frequencies; (4) recommend the manner in which new technologies can be applied to the public safety frequencies; and (5) recommend guidelines to ensure compliance with the National Plan.

NPSPAC submitted its Initial Report to the Commission in March 1987. On May 15, 1987, the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, which proposed policies, and rules for the National Plan. NPSPAC issued its Final Report in September 1987. On December 18, 1987, the Commission released a report and order regarding the development and implementation of a Public Safety National Plan: General Docket No. 87-112.

The National Plan consists of guidelines for the development of regional plans. The National Plan reflects the FCC's regulatory objective of maximizing spectrum efficiency and ensuring sufficient flexibility to accommodate specific communications requirements in different areas of the United States. Thus the United States was divided into Regions, primarily along state boundaries. A few large metropolitan areas were designated as independent Planning Regions.

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Prior to the Report and Order, NPSPAC's Final Report had recommended a total of fifty-four (54) Planning Regions. However, when the Report and Order was released, the Commission had established only forty-eight (48) Planning Regions. A Petition for Limited Reconsideration was filed by NPSPAC on February 12, 1988, asking that additional planning regions be established due to densely populated metropolitan areas, which were regions in themselves. The Commission granted this Petition and established fifty-five (55) regions with Arizona as Region 3. The National Plan will serve as an umbrella under which regional plans such as this can be developed and implemented.

The National Plan provides guidelines for the development of regional plans, with as much regional self-governing as possible, to ensure that the needs of all eligible entities are considered in the planning process.

#### 2.0 REGIONAL PROFILE

The state of Arizona encompasses almost 114,000 square miles and makes up Region 3. Much of the state is sparsely populated Federal and Native American Reservation land. There are two major population centers, Phoenix and Tucson. The State currently has over 3.5 million residents with population projections indicating an increase to 6.5 million people by the year 2000.

Geographically, Arizona is a complex mixture of environments varying from desert scrub plants near sea level to barren mountain peaks at over 12,670 feet elevation. An example of the extreme desert to mountain change occurs in the Tucson area where the Sonoran Desert basin changes to a pine forest in the Coronado National Forest, an almost 7000 foot change occurring in about 15 miles. Besides the Grand Canyon, another major geographic feature is the Mogollon Rim, a 200-mile long geographic barrier that separates the northern and southern portions of the State. The top of the Rim plateau contains the world's largest standing Ponderosa pine forest. The high mountains provide both the best and worst of radio communications and the ensuing interference and spectrum planning problems.

#### 3.0 AUTHORITY

This plan has been developed by a representative group of Public Safety Services eligible for licensing in the 6 MHz of the 800 MHz spectrum. Authority for the Regional Planning Committee to carry out its assigned tasks is derived from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC Report and Order, Docket 87-112).

# 3.1 Regional Planning Committee

A Convener was selected and public notification pursuant to the National Plan was initiated. Since the state of Arizona has two large populated metropolitan centers and the majority of the state is rural areas, three (3) public meetings were held in order to accommodate the rural areas.

The membership of the Arizona Regional Planning Committee is open to representatives from all eligible user groups pursuant to FCC Report and Order, Docket 87-112, Section IV, Subsection B, Paragraph 46. Interested parties became participants in the formation of the Regional Planning Committee and represent both the Public Safety and Special Emergency Radio Services. A total of 105 individuals have participated in the Plan's developmental process. Appendix I lists names, organizational affiliations, and mailing addresses of all participants in the Regional Planning Committee formation.

Prior to working on the plan, the working committee sent two questionnaires to all Public Safety and Special Emergency Radio Service users for input concerning present and future communications needs. After compiling the received data from responding agencies, the Regional Planning Committee drafted the Plan.

## 3.2 Working Committee

A working committee was established to facilitate the development of the Regional Plan. Their main function was to receive input from local, state and federal representatives, as well as vendors and suppliers to be used in the formation of the Regional Plan. Members of this committee were as follows:

Chairman: Anthony J. Tricoci

City of Mesa Communications Division

P.O. Box 1466

Mesa, AZ. 85211-1466 Tel. (602) 644-2802

#### Version August 14, 2007

Member:

Debbie Overton

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

102 West Madison Phoenix, AZ. 85003 Tel. (602) 256-1026

Member:

Brent Ackzen City of Glendale Department of Police 7119 N. 57th Drive Glendale, AZ. 85301

Tel. (602) 931-5518

Member:

Rick Tannehill

Arizona Department of Public Safety Technical Communications Division

P.O. Box 6638 Phoenix, AZ. 85005 Tel. (602) 223-2295

Member:

**Bob Gates** 

Salt River Project P.O. Box 52025

Phoenix, AZ. 85072-2025

Member:

Peter Meeks

City of Phoenix Communications Section

2441 S. 22nd Avenue Phoenix, AZ. 85009-6917 Tel. (602) 262-7034

#### 3.3 Approval of Regional Plan

Prior to submitting the plan for FCC approval, an announcement was made that a draft of the Plan was available for review, and copies were sent to any requesting party. All adjacent regions (Region 5 - Southern California, Region 7 - Colorado, Region 27 - Nevada, Region 29 - New Mexico, and Region 41 - Utah) received copies for review and comments. (See Appendix VI for concurrence)

All comments were to be received by February 1, 1991. A public meeting was held on February 7, 1991 at 0930 hrs at the City of Glendale Council Chambers Building, as a means for those interested parties to make their comments known before the Working Committee. Following receipt of all comments, the Working Committee made modifications to the Plan by the opinion of the majority. Copies of the modified sections of the Plan were sent to those parties who had submitted comments. Upon approval of the changes, the final plan was formulated.

# 3.4 Regional Review Committee

Upon FCC approval of this plan, a Regional Review Committee will be established for the review of new applications and for conducting an annual system implementation review. Since modifications to the Plan may be necessary because of changing requirements, the committee will also recommend changes and/or modifications of the Regional Plan to be submitted to the FCC. The committee will also provide a mechanism for resolution of inter- and intra- regional disputes and for exercising general oversight of the Plan.

The Arizona Regional Review Committee (ARRC) shall be comprised of eleven members with no more than one committee member from a single political jurisdiction. Nominations to the committee shall be made as part of an open, general meeting.

Semi-annual open, public meetings shall be held concurrent with Arizona APCO chapter meetings. Each attending political jurisdiction shall be apportioned one vote at each meeting. Designated representatives and alternates shall be identified prior to the meetings.

Voting on vacancies shall take place at the general meeting of the ARRC after publication of all nominations to the entire APCO chapter membership. Members to this committee must be elected by a majority vote of all designated representatives present at the semi-annual meeting, as per Robert's Rules of order, and who are current employees of an Arizona political jurisdiction. The chairperson of this committee shall be chosen by the committee.

There shall be no time limit for serving on the ARRC, but a member may be removed from this Committee by resignation or by a vote of the quorum of an open, general meeting. Such removal may take place only after a thirty-day written notice has been made to the entire authorized voting representatives.

No changes, modifications, or amendments can be made to the approved Plan unless agreed to by at least a two-thirds majority of the quorum of the ARRC members.

No change in a position on the priority list for assignment of a frequency in either the 800 MHz spectrum or in reallocation of lower frequencies that may be given up to receive 800 MHz assignments can be made unless approved by at least a two-thirds majority of the ARRC.

Minutes of all meetings of the ARRC must be taken and mailed to the appropriate agencies.

### 3.5 Conclusion

This Plan, when approved and implemented, will ensure the best possible use of this new portion of the spectrum and will also ensure an orderly transition from existing frequencies/systems to this new portion of the spectrum. It will also serve as a guide in the reassignment of vacated channels, and provide, through the Regional Review Committee, an ongoing method of ensuring fair and equitable recommendations of channels and usage to all Public Safety Services and users. Resolution of any arising conflict is left to the judgment of the Commission.

### 4.0 COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS - REGIONAL INTEROPERABILITY

#### 4.1 General

This part of the Arizona Regional Plan deals with the requirement for coordinated communications between various jurisdictions and functional entities within the Region. The intent is to ensure compatibility in the assignment of frequencies, especially calling and interoperability channels. The purpose of this plan is not to replace existing intercommunication plans or channels, but to supplement them at 800 MHz with a more detailed plan. In fact, the Regional Plan encourages continued use of VHF and UHF intercommunications presently in use for Police and Fire, including 155.475 MHz, 460.375 MHz, and 154.280 MHz. The plan also encourages cross patching these channels to the 800 MHz Common Calling Channels, and others as appropriate, at the dispatch console level within regional operating subsystems.

### 4.2 Regional Calling and Interoperability Channels Authority

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in Docket 87-112, Sec. IV.C.50-52, released Dec. 18, 1987, mandated the use of a single, conventional, common-calling channel and four (4) tactical channels on a nationwide basis in the new 800 MHz Public Safety allocations. The FCC also strongly recommended the use of CTCSS tone squelch nationally on a frequency of 156.7 Hz.

The Arizona Regional Planning Committee has reviewed and implemented the five- (5) national channels, and added one (1) additional 800 MHz channel for interoperability strictly within the Arizona Region. The Arizona Plan also adopts the use of 156.7 Hz tone squelch as mandatory on all voice radio systems on the common calling and interoperability channels.

#### 4.3 Eligibility

Primary eligible users include Police, Fire, Local Govt., Highway Maintenance, Forestry Conservation, and providers of Basic and Advanced Life Support Services in Special Emergency Services, as defined in the FCC Rules and Regulations, and licensed to use the spectrum. These users are eligible to operate base stations on the five- (5) National and one- (1) Statewide interoperability channels.

In addition, Federal agencies may become eligible entities through the use of public safety agreements, whereby a licensee may permit federal use of a non-federal communications system. Such use, other than the five common calling channels is to be in full compliance with the FCC's requirements for federal government use on state and local government frequencies (Title 47 CFR, Sec. 2.103).

Also, other eligible entities such as school buses, volunteer emergency corps, Red Cross, Radio

Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES), Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), Salvation Army, etc., under the National Plan may also participate on a secondary basis in the support of the preservation of life and property during an emergency.

#### 4.4 Application Procedures

All interoperability channel licensees for Mobile Relay (FB2), or Fixed Stations (FB) shall be obtained by and in the name of the entity authorized by the Arizona Regional Review Committee. Other base radios shall be licensed in the name of the applicant agency. In accordance with FCC Report and Order General Docket 87-112, vehicular, portable, and aircraft stations using either the five National channels or the Statewide interoperability channel (Channel 6, 8TAC5) may operate without further FCC authorization. However, the prospective vehicular/portable/aircraft user must comply with 4.5.4 of this section.

# 4.5 Allocated Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels

The use and allocation of the calling and tactical interoperability channels is broken down as follows:

- 1. AIRSAZ (821/866.0125 MHz) National Public Safety Calling and Rural Tactical Operations Interoperability.
- 2. 8TAC1 (821/866.5125 MHz) Primary Fire and Emergency Medical Service, Statewide.
- 3. 8TAC2 (822/867.0125 MHz) Primary Law Enforcement, Statewide.
- 4. 8TAC3 (822/867.5125 MHz) Primary Fire and Emergency Medical Service, Statewide; Federal Govt.
- 5. 8TAC4 (823/868.0125 MHz) Primary Law Enforcement, Statewide; Federal Govt.
- 6. 8TAC5 (821/866.0375 MHz) Primary Statewide for all Other Public Safety, including Highway/Forestry/Local Govt./Search & Rescue.

Although primary usage is defined above, this is not to preclude use by all other eligible entities when appropriate in coordinated operations. (See 4.3)

It is mandatory that all agencies use the names listed above to facilitate interagency communications. Optionally, the channel name can be modified when used in the direct or talk around mode with the addition of the letter 'D' (Direct) to the end of the name, e.g. 8TAC2\_D. This requirement is based on the capabilities of an entity's subscriber equipment.

# 4.5.1 Common Calling Channel Monitoring Requirements

All new portable/mobile radios granted license authorizations in the 821-824 MHz and 866-869 MHz bands, as well as all replacement equipment in the 806-821 MHz and 851-866 MHz bands, shall be capable of and equipped to operate on Channels 1 - 5 calling and tactical frequencies in the conventional mode of operation. In addition, each portable/mobile radio shall have the repeater "Direct or talk-around" channel on Channel 1 (National Calling Channel) and on their primary tactical channels. Also, a Public Safety eligible receiving a new 800 MHz license is required to be able to monitor and communicate in the repeater and "Direct or talk-around" modes at their primary communications site.

The largest geographic Public Safety 800 MHz new system licensee in a geographic area may be required to place in operation, an AIRSAZ calling channel repeater at one or more of their existing repeater sites. If notification is made to a prospective licensee as a condition of system plan acceptance by ARRC and the FCC, the station shall be placed in service at the same time with the rest of the authorized system. A suitable Calling Channel funding plan shall be submitted as part of the authorization request.

### 4.5.2 Tactical Interoperability Channel Requirements

### 4.5.2.1 Monitoring Requirements

Each new licensee in the 800 MHz spectrum shall also have a base station radio at their primary station site, as a minimum requirement, capable of monitoring and operating on the primary tactical channels in their area, for which they are eligible service providers. This base station radio shall include frequencies for both simplex (Direct) and repeater control.

Use of Arizona Tactical (8TAC5) is prohibited in some areas in the Counties bordering California; however, it shall be included in all portable/mobile equipment in all other areas. Use of 8TAC5 in La Paz and Mohave Counties is subject to interference from a State of California transmitter located near Needles, California and use is prohibited within a 70 mile radius of the transmitter located at 34° 40′ 54″N, 114° 41′ 24″W.

#### 4.5.2.2 Repeater Establishment

Permanent high power repeaters may be established on any of the tactical channels. The ARRC will determine the location of the tactical channel repeaters and has the authority to deny a license if potential interference exists. The permanent repeaters will normally be in the off mode and activated by the Regional Repeater Controlling Agency (RRCA) upon request from an agency requiring an interoperability channel in the event of a multi-agency incident. The Regional Repeater Controlling Agency will be designated by the ARRC and may or may not be the agency supplying the repeater equipment. If an interoperability repeater is to be installed within 70 miles of the State boundary, the

adjacent 800 MHz Region must be notified with the location in order to prevent interference to that Region's interoperability capabilities.

Low power (<20 watts ERP) transportable repeaters may be employed by any eligible service agency for establishing emergency communications over a wider area than simplex communications would allow. The RRCA must be contacted by any agency using a transportable repeater within the coverage area of a permanent repeater. This is to allow for effective coordination and sharing of the frequencies. Such a repeater shall be turned off and removed as soon as practical after the event has passed. At no time will a tactical repeater be allowed to operate for more than a 30-day continuous period.

### 4.5.2.3 Voice Security/Privacy/Scrambling Equipment

Voice scrambling or encryption is NOT ALLOWED on the Common Calling Channel (AIRSAZ), except in rural areas, where the calling channel is also used for tactical operations. In rural areas, each licensee is still required to monitor the calling channel in CLEAR mode, regardless of voice encryption.

Voice scrambling or encryption IS allowed on the other voice tactical channels, either unit to unit, unit to base or through a temporary repeater if all users of the temporary repeater also have access to the CLEAR mode, or the same encryption scrambling standard as required.

#### 4.5.3 Attestation

Each prospective licensee shall include a standard signed statement form with their request for authorization, acknowledging they have read and are familiar with the Arizona Regional Plan and agree to abide by its conditions, especially insofar as the Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channel operational requirements.

### 4.5.4 Priority Levels of Utilization

The established priority use levels for the six- (6) Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels are described below. When a higher priority of use is required, all lower priority use must cease in ANY area where interference could occur.

The four priority levels are:

PRIORITY 1: Disaster and extreme emergency operations of large scale involving imminent safety of lives, for mutual aid and interagency communications.

PRIORITY 2: Emergency or urgent operations involving imminent safety of life or property.

PRIORITY 3: Special event control activities, generally of a preplanned nature, and generally involving

joint participation of two or more agencies.

PRIORITY 4: Drill, maintenance, and test exercise of a civil defense or disaster nature.

# 4.5.5 Language and Radio Codes Standards

All communications on the Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels will be conducted in "CLEAR TEXT", using the ENGLISH language, unless use of another language is clearly necessary to carry out emergency communications.

### 4.6 Federal Govt. Communications Interface Requirements

Federal Govt. agencies, operating within the borders of the Arizona region, may access the Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels for the purpose of coordinating with and communicating with Public Safety eligible entities. Federal agencies are exempt from the monitoring requirements set forth in Sec 4.2. However, their use of the Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels shall otherwise be in complete conformance with the Regional Plan.

Before a federal agency is certified eligible to access the Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels, there shall be established a formal agreement with the Public Safety eligible with whom they desire to have communications. This agreement shall be on the standard ARRC form. Each agreement shall be mailed to the ARRC for review and to be placed on file with the committee.

### 4.7 Public Switched Telephone Network

The use of automatic or operator-assisted connection on the Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels to the public switched telephone network is strictly PROHIBITED.

#### 4.8 Amateur Radio Intercommunications

It is the intent of the Arizona Regional Plan to encourage participation of the Amateur Radio community in public safety communications relating to emergency or disaster communications.

The following intercommunications of public safety radio communications systems are encouraged in emergency/disaster situations:

1. Loan of 800 MHz radios to qualified amateur radio emergency coordination groups, such as RACES, AREC, etc.

- 2. Allow amateur radio nets to operate out of Public Safety Command Centers.
- 3. Allow selective amateur to Public Safety cross patching under emergency conditions, at selected public safety communication centers, under control of a governmental entity.

#### 4.8 Amateur Radio Intercommunications

All Amateur/Public Safety communications shall continue to comply with applicable FCC Rules and Regulations, and rules and plans of the affected amateur group.

It is <u>strongly recommended</u> that each Public Safety entity have an agreement in place with volunteer amateur groups, defining what level of intercommunications will be allowed and provided during an emergency situation. This plan should be filed with the ARRC coordinator for approval.

### 4.9 Operation in Aircraft

Operation of radio equipment on the six (6) Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels is permitted, provided power is limited to 3 watts ERP and conforms to all applicable FCC Rules and regulations.

#### 4.10 Grandfathered Equipment

Existing radio equipment that is currently operating in 806/866 MHz band and was in the agency's possession or ordered on/or before September 7, 1988 may be used with notification to the ARRC. To operate on the six Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels, the deviation is to be  $\pm$ -4.0 kHz maximum.

#### 4.11 Unit Identifiers/Automatic Station ID

Units operating on the Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels are to include their agency name in their unit identification. (Example: Maricopa County, Mesa PD Unit 2 Adam 01) Automatic Station Identifiers usage is encouraged but is not to replace the voice identification requirement.

# 5.0 COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS-INTERREGIONAL INTEROPERABILITY

### 5.1 General

This portion of the Arizona Regional Plan deals with the requirement for coordinated communications between the Arizona Region, and adjacent regions in the Southwest. This includes the Southern California Region, Nevada Region, Utah Region, Colorado Region, New Mexico Region, and the Nation of Mexico. The purpose is to insure compatibility in the assignment of frequencies, especially Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels. This plan does not replace any current VHF or UHF common channels in use by eligible agencies along the borders, but supplements them through designation of new Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels at 800 MHz.

## 5.2 Interregional Calling and Tactical Channels; Authority:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in General Docket 87-112, released Dec. 18, 1987, mandated the coordination of each authorized region's activities with adjacent regions. (IV.C.50-52)

The Arizona Regional Planning Committee has implemented a set of rules dictating interregional compatibility. These rules were made after contacting all adjacent regions to determine if there was any potential conflict with their plans. However, since the Commission has not yet approved some of the adjacent Region Plans, future changes may be required to ensure long-term compatibility.

#### 5.3 Southern California Region Compatibility:

The common western border along the Colorado River with California, including San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial counties, is the area most likely to run into conflict both in operating frequency assignment, and in interoperability channel use. Southern California has previously asked for Arizona approval of their plan. This approval has been granted, after reviewing their plan. As a result, Arizona will not assign 823/868.5125 MHz or 823/868.9875 MHz to any agency located along the California border to avoid potential interference with their Channel 6 (Law) and Channel 7 (Fire/EMS) interoperability channels.

Previously, California had been asked not to assign Arizona Region interoperability Channel 6 (821/866.0500 MHz) along the Colorado River. This latest revision of the Arizona Plan has reassigned this channel and 821/866.0500 MHz is used as a guard band and will not be assigned for use in Arizona. Arizona Region interoperability Channel 6 is now 821/866.0375 MHz and Arizona will limit its use in the border area to prevent interference with existing users in Southern California.

Arizona licensees are encouraged to utilize the nationwide five Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels to intercommunicate with California licensees when joint response is required along the Colorado River. Since this entire area is considered "Rural" in the Arizona Plan, any of the interoperability channels may be utilized for any service function with California.

# 5.4 Other Adjacent Region Compatibility:

Arizona rural licensees are likewise encouraged to utilize the five nationwide Common Calling/Tactical Channels along the border with any other region (Nevada, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico), as local conditions require. Any service use of the interoperability channels is permitted to achieve joint communications with other regional licensees. This plan may be amended from time to time as other regional plans continue to be developed. (Refer to Appendix V for letters of concurrence from adjacent regions.)

#### 5.5 Communications with Mexico:

All interoperability frequencies are assumed to be usable and assignable to the Mexican Border as long as there is a mutual agreement on use within the 110 Km of the border. However, this portion of the plan is subject to automatic change depending upon FCC regulation and treaty with Mexico.

Governmental police eligible entities may communicate with officials from Mexico along the border in the event of an emergency or disaster. This should be done on the Common Calling/Tactical Interoperability Channels and only in conformance with Part 90.19c of the FCC Rules and Regulations. Sonoran authorities have been notified as to the Arizona Regional Plan for use of these frequencies.

#### 6.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Any request for frequencies between 821-824 and 866-869 MHz to be used for public safety operations (as described in Part 90 of the FCC Rules and Regulations) must be submitted to the Arizona Regional Review Committee (ARRC) for review.

SEND APPLICATION TO: ARIZONA REGIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE P.O. Box 863

Phoenix, AZ. 85001

If adequate spectrum is available, the ARRC shall review the application to determine its compliance with the Regional Plan as indicated below. If there is inadequate spectrum or the Committee anticipates a shortage, the established evaluation procedure shall be instituted. This procedure, "Evaluation Criteria", is outlined in Section 7.6.

Additionally, shared multi-agency systems will have priority consideration in accordance with the FCC Report and Order, Paragraph 37.

Also, in accordance with Paragraph 13 of the Report and Order, when it is not possible to grant requests for assignments in the new 800 MHz spectrum to everyone who is eligible, the highest priority must be given to those organizations most fundamentally involved in protection of lives and property.

If approved by the ARRC, the request for frequencies will be returned to the applicant to be forwarded to the Associated Public Safety Communications Officers (APCO) for frequency coordination. If not approved by the ARRC, the request will be returned to the applicant for revision and correction before being resubmitted to the Committee for further consideration.

The request shall contain information to justify the frequencies requested and shall demonstrate compliance with the Arizona Regional Plan. As a minimum, the request shall consist of the following:

- 1. Appropriate Coordination and Licensing Application Forms.
- 2. System Design Information.
- 3. Funding Statement.
- 4. Proposed Implementation Schedule.
- 5. Justification of the Number of Channels.
- 6. Existing Frequency Statement.
- 7. Statement of Understanding on Official Letterhead.
- 8. Frequency Re-use form. (Give backs)